



## NEWS RELEASE

### Gov. Blanco and Eight Agency Heads Pledge to “Stamp Out Fraud” Awareness Campaign Launched to Encourage Citizens to Report Problem

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco  
Governor of Louisiana

Charles C. Foti, Jr.  
Attorney General

J. Robert Wooley  
Insurance Commissioner

Fox McKeithen  
Secretary of State

John Warner Smith  
Secretary, Department of  
Labor

Frederick P. Cerise, M.D., MPH  
Secretary, Department of  
Health and Hospitals

Ann S. Williamson  
Secretary, Department of  
Social Services

Cynthia Bridges  
Secretary of Revenue

Col. Henry L. Whitehorn  
Superintendent, Louisiana  
State Police

BATON ROUGE — Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco along with the heads of eight state agencies joined together to raise awareness about the high cost of fraud by launching the “Stamp Out Fraud” campaign at a news conference February 15 in the 4th floor Press Room at the State Capitol.

Fraud, in all its forms, costs Louisiana hundreds of millions of dollars annually. It is a serious threat to the quality of state-run programs and costs consumers millions of dollars every year in the form of higher premiums and taxes.

In a show of solidarity Attorney General Charles Foti, Jr., Insurance Commissioner Robert Wooley, Secretary of State Fox McKeithen, Secretary of Labor John Warner Smith, Secretary of Health and Hospitals Fred Cerise, M.D., Secretary of Social Services Ann S. Williamson, Secretary of Revenue Cynthia Bridges, and State Police Superintendent Col. Henry Whitehorn joined the governor to encourage citizens to educate themselves about fraud and how to report it.

“Fraud is a serious threat to the well-being of individuals, families, businesses and to the state as a whole,” said Gov. Blanco. “It is our responsibility to help alleviate it by reporting it.”

The “Stamp Out Fraud” campaign includes the launch of a toll-free number, 1-866-FRAUD05, to which citizens can report all types of fraud — from medical providers illegally billing Medicaid for services not performed to citizens disguising income or failing to remit state taxes. A “Stamp Out Fraud” Web site also has been created where individuals can find out more about fraud and how to report it. The link to the Web page can be found at [www.louisiana.gov](http://www.louisiana.gov). To publicize the toll-free number and Web site address, the coalition of agencies has purchased space on more than 25 billboards across the state.

The Office of Workers’ Compensation in the Louisiana Department of Labor spearheaded the “Stamp Out Fraud” awareness campaign by bringing together as many state agencies as possible to educate citizens about the high cost of fraud, and make it easier for the public to report it.

“Before now, people had to know what agency they needed to call and find the number for that agency’s fraud unit,” said Kaye Fournet, manager of the fraud unit in LDOL’s Workers’ Compensation office. “We hope the single, toll-free number will encourage more people to report fraud, enabling the state to investigate and prosecute those who profit illegally from state-run programs.”

For more information about “Stamp Out Fraud,” contact Kaye Fournet at (225) 342-2226 or by email at [kfournet@ldol.state.la.us](mailto:kfournet@ldol.state.la.us).

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Fraud... the Crime that Costs Us All

1.866.Fraud05

[www.louisiana.gov](http://www.louisiana.gov)